

CHINESE KILLING
SELVES TO ESCAPE
PANGS OF HUNGER

Many Are Starving and Thousands Are on Verge of Famine in Province of Suan as Drouth Result.
CLAY ONLY FOOD OF NUMBERS
Wretches Eat Roots and Barks, and Even Soil, to Assuage Their Sufferings.

MAIL REPORT TO WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Many are starving, others are committing suicide to escape the terrors of hunger and thousands are on the verge of starvation in the province of Szechuan, China, because of famine, according to mail advices to the State department received today from F. Carleton Baker, American consul at Chung King.

Due to Drouth.

The famine is due to a protracted drouth, particularly in the region of Fuchow and Chung Chow.
"Many of the poorer people are already dying and others are on the verge of starvation," says the memorandum to the State department. "The price of rice has more than doubled.

Are Eating Clay.

"Some of the people are so desperate that they are eating roots and barks from the trees and even clay, and others are committing suicide to escape the terrors of starvation."

It is believed conditions will not improve until the next harvest in the late summer, Consul Baker's message stated. President Yuan Shi Kai is said to have authorized an expenditure of \$50,000 for relief of the sufferers. The letter to the department was dated March 19 last.

Breitung Says He Gave His Son-in-Law Chance to Make Good

NEW YORK, April 24.—Edward N. Breitung, capitalist, was called to the stand when the suit for \$250,000 brought against him and his wife by Frederick Kleist, a coachman, for alienation of their daughter's affections, which was resumed in the United States district court today.
Mr. Breitung's testimony, a resume of that given at the first hearing of the suit which ended in a mistrial, was that he was disposed only to act in Kleist's interest from the start and was willing to help him. On cross-examination, however, Mr. Breitung admitted that on one occasion he was going to strike and kick Kleist, but Juliet intervened. This was when Kleist called on his parents-in-law here. Mr. Breitung said Kleist was wearing "my socks, cravat and scarf."

Frederick Pleads Guilty to Forgery in First Degree

ST. LOUIS, April 24.—August H. Frederick, who recently resigned from the presidency of the board of aldermen, to which he was elected this spring by a 22,000 plurality, today pleaded guilty to forgery in the first degree.
He was sentenced to ten years in the state penitentiary. It was announced he would be taken to prison today.
The charge on which he pleaded guilty was the forging of the name of Mrs. Esther Ellis of Winchester, Ill., to a \$2,000 deed of trust.
Frederick was taken to the penitentiary at Jefferson City on a fast train this afternoon. To avoid the crowd, he boarded the train at Tower Grove station, instead of Union station. None of his family were present to see him off.

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Sunday: For Omaha, Council Bluffs and vicinity: Partly cloudy; not much change in temperature.
Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:
Hour. Deg.
8 A. M. 63
9 A. M. 63
10 A. M. 63
11 A. M. 63
12 M. 63
1 P. M. 63
2 P. M. 63
3 P. M. 63
4 P. M. 63
5 P. M. 63
6 P. M. 63
7 P. M. 63
8 P. M. 63
9 P. M. 63
10 P. M. 63
11 P. M. 63
12 M. 63
Comparative Local Record:
Highest yesterday: 74
Lowest yesterday: 41
Mean temperature: 61
Precipitation: .02
Temperatures and precipitation departures from the normal:
Normal temperature: 61
Excess for the day: 2
Total excess since March 1: 11
Normal precipitation: .16
Deficiency for the day: .14
Total deficiency since March 1: 1.34
Excess for cor. period, 1914: .17 inches
Deficiency since March 1: 1.17 inches
Excess for cor. period, 1915: .28 inches
Deficiency since March 1: .89 inches
L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

MAYOR DAHLMAN stops in front of the City Hall to inscribe his autograph on one of The Bee's petitions in behalf of Leo M. Frank.



VERDICT \$1,000 IN EDITH HICKS' CASE

Clark Must Pay for Forcible Kiss Taken from Pretty Plaintiff, Says Jury.

ALBERT A. Clark, Council Bluffs capitalist, must pay \$1,000 to pretty Edith Hicks, 21 years old, for a forcible kiss taken in the sleeping porch of his home April 21, 1913, a jury in Judge Leslie's district court decided yesterday. The verdict was returned at 5:45 o'clock yesterday after fifteen hours' deliberation.
The jury took the case at 4:15 o'clock Friday afternoon. At 10 o'clock that evening the members went to their homes, returning at 9 yesterday morning and continuing their deliberations all day. Reports after the verdict was returned said that most of the ballots taken by them were seven to five and eight to four for substantial damages for the plaintiff.
Mr. Clark said last evening he was not prepared to make a statement whether he would take an appeal to the supreme court.
"I do not know what to think about it," said Mrs. Hicks. "I do not want to say anything now."
"Other litigation pending between Mrs. Hicks and Mr. Clark will be pressed," said John O. Yeiser, attorney for the young woman. "The verdict of the jury has sustained her allegations."
Nine married men on jury.
The jury which returned the verdict was composed of nine married men, two widowers and one single man, who lives with his mother and sisters. Its members follow:
W. T. Sprinmeyer, clerk, Begon.
C. S. Anderson, insurance agent, 114 North Twenty-fifth.
G. W. Springer, cigar salesman, 2301 Maple.
J. C. Carter, bookkeeper, 418 South Twenty-fifth.
William H. Guild, railway chief clerk, 816 Chicago.
William Gibbs, farmer, Benson.
Herbert Wing, plumber, 719 North Thirty-third.
W. E. McDermott, laborer, 1138 North Seventeenth.
Herbert D. Brown, checker, 3198 Laramie avenue.
W. G. Templeton, insurance agent, 404 Chicago.
O. Welmer, hardware dealer, 230 North Thirty-fifth avenue.

Former Iowa Man Killed by Lightning

CHEYENNE, Wyo., April 24.—(Special.)—Bert McAllister, aged 25 years, a farmer, was instantly killed late Thursday by a bolt of lightning, which struck him while he was plowing on his homestead, sixty miles north of this place. The bolt also killed three horses, which were attached to the plow. The bodies were found later by a neighbor and that of McAllister was brought to Cheyenne Friday.
The lightning presumably struck McAllister, passed through his body, the plow and the harness into the bodies of the horses. The bolt struck McAllister on the head, tearing a hole in his hat, jumped to his waist and plowed a jagged and singed furrow in his flesh to his right foot. His right shoe was burned off.
McAllister came to Wyoming about a year ago from Blakesburg, Ia., where his parents reside. He was unmarried.

PRUSSIANS SINK FOUR MORE SHIPS WITH TORPEDOES

Two Norwegian Vessels Destroyed by Submarines of Germans After Crews Given Ten Minutes to Get Off.
CAPRIVI ONE OF THE VICTIMS

Steamsip Ruth with Cargo of Coal for Gothenburg, Sweden, is Sunk in North Sea.
FINNISH ORE SHIP ALSO SUNK

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The German embassy announced today it had information "from a reliable source" that a British battleship was severely damaged in the last Zeppelin attack over the Tyne.

LONDON, April 24.—The freighter Ruth was sunk by a German submarine on Wednesday when about 100 miles east of May Island, in the North Sea. The crew was rescued and was landed at Leith, Scotland.
The Ruth left Leith with a cargo of coal for Gothenburg. Captain Andersen, its skipper, who is a Swede, reports that the first torpedo discharged by the submarine missed its mark. The second torpedo struck the Ruth amidships, wrecking the vessel.
The sixteen members of the crew were all Swedes. They drifted about in small boats for many hours before being picked up.

Norwegian Ship Sunk.
The Norwegian steamship Caprivi, which sailed from Baltimore April 6 for Christiania, way of Androssan, Scotland, struck a mine at a point fifteen miles northeast of Tory Island last night and sank, according to a dispatch received here today by Lloyd's agency from Inshtrahull, Ireland.
The crew of the Caprivi was landed at Inshtrahull today.
The Caprivi had a net tonnage of 1,822 and was built in 1882. The vessel was 230 feet long, 40 feet beam and 20 feet deep.

Crews Landed.
DURY ISLAND, Scotland, April 24.—The crews of the Norwegian bark, Oscar and Eva, were landed here today by the steamship Anna, flying the Danish flag. A German submarine overhauled the bark about 120 miles northeast of the Longstone and allowed their crews ten minutes to board lifeboats. The submarine then shelled the abandoned vessel.
Subsequently the German submarine stopped the Danish steamer Anna and ordered it to take aboard the crews of the Oscar and Eva. The bark was bound for a Scottish port and was loaded with pit props.

FINNISH STEAMSHIP SUNK.
STOCKHOLM, April 24.—(Via London.)—The Finnish steamer, Fra Frack, has been torpedoed and sunk in the Baltic by a German submarine. It is believed that the members of its crew were saved. The Frack carried a cargo of iron ore and was on its way to Abo, Finland.

JAPAN DEMANDS REPLY FROM CHINA

Ultimatum Sent to Peking Insists Upon Satisfactory Answer Inside Three Days.

HONOLULU, T. H., April 24.—An ultimatum, demanding a satisfactory answer within three days to the demands of Japan on China, has been sent by the Japanese cabinet to Eki Hicki, the Japanese minister at Peking, for delivery to the representatives of China at the negotiations, according to a dispatch from Tokio to the Hawaii Shino, a Japanese newspaper here.

NEWS COMES VIA HONOLULU

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RUSH WILL PROSECUTE LOS ANGELES MAIL CASES

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 24.—Sylvester R. Rush, special assistant to the United States attorney general, has arrived here from Washington to aid in the prosecution of eleven former directors and officials of the Los Angeles Investment company, indicted on a charge of using the mails to defraud. Rush recently prosecuted the so-called Florida Everglades land fraud cases in Kansas City. The Los Angeles investment company trial will begin May 25.

EIGHT BUSINESS HOUSES BURNED AT PEEVER, S. D.

ABERDEEN, S. D., April 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Fire originating in the post-office at Peever, S. D., at 1 o'clock this morning, wiped out the entire business block, including eight firms. The loss is \$60,000.

The Bee's Leo M. Frank Petitions are in great demand and are being fast filled with signatures.

The Bee's petitions asking the governor of Georgia to save Leo M. Frank from the death penalty are growing in demand, not only in Omaha, but in surrounding cities and towns. One volunteer, without waiting for a blank, made one of his own by cutting the form out of The Bee and sent it in all filled. Several have come back to our offices more than once for additional blanks. Samples of some of the letters we are receiving are here subjoined:
Traveling Man Writes.
OMAHA, April 23.—To the Editor of The Bee: Your paragraph in your editorial column ending (the governor of Georgia) "is not a mind reader," has borne fruit, in one case at least.
I have written the governor, telling him that I am sure, from opinions which I have heard on the road, expressed in widely different parts of the country, that the exercise of executive clemency in the Frank case would be approved and applauded throughout the whole United States.
JOHN WATSON CARY,
1101 Monadnock, Chicago, Ill.
Kearney Folks Are Interested.
KEARNEY, Neb., April 23.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am interested in the movement to save the life of Leo M. Frank of Georgia. I read the reports during the trial and have read in the leading magazines and papers the comments on the case. The court and jury that convicted him must have been influenced by threats of violence and it cannot well

Greece Ready to Join in Attack On the Dardanelles if It Is Asked

PARIS, April 24.—Christakis Zographos, foreign minister of Greece, is quoted today by the information as declaring that Greece was ready to unite with the allies in the operations at the Dardanelles if invited to do so.
Information says that M. Zographos was this statement to Hubert Jacques, a correspondent of this newspaper. Up to the present time, he said, Greece had not been asked to co-operate with the

END OF THAW CASE STILL FAR AWAY

Attorney General Will Ask Appellate Court for Writ Against Jury Trial.
COURT EXCEEDED ITS POWER

NEW YORK, April 24.—Harry K. Thaw, who went to sleep in the Tombs prison last night elated by his belief that he had won his long fight for a jury trial to test his sanity, awoke today to learn that he must await a decision of the appellate division of the supreme court before such a hearing would be granted.
This new check in his attempt to obtain his freedom from the Matteawan asylum, to which Justice Page had ordered him returned, was due to the announcement of Attorney General Woodbury that the state would make application to the appellate division for a writ of prohibition against the order for a jury trial, granted yesterday by Justice Hendrick. Mr. Woodbury's decision was made public after Thaw had retired for the night. The attorney general contends that Justice Hendrick does not possess power to grant a jury trial on the writ of habeas corpus obtained by Thaw.

Lawson is Charged With Cannonading Strikers During Row

TRINIDAD, Col., April 24.—The charge that John R. Lawson, international executive board member of the United Mine Workers of America, was in command of the striking coal miners in the battle, near Ludlow, October 30, 1914, when John Nimmo, a deputy sheriff, was killed, was made in the opening statement today by Norton Montgomery, assistant attorney general. Lawson is on trial, charged with murder in connection with Nimmo's death.
According to Montgomery, Nimmo, a deputy sheriff, was one of a force of officers stationed near Ludlow to preserve order and prevent clashes between strikers and mine guards prior to the arrival of the militia. The deputies were attacked, Montgomery declared, and fought the battle in defense of their lives. During the fight, Nimmo was shot in the left leg, the bullet severing the femoral artery. He died soon after.
The assistant attorney general told the jury that John R. Lawson then was in charge of the Ludlow tent colony, had bought and imported arms and was in direct command of the strikers, who did the fighting.
Horace N. Hawkins, chief counsel for the defense, interposed an objection to the inclusion of events that took place several hours after the death of Nimmo. Montgomery desisted from that feature of his statement.
The first witness for the state was Roy Campbell, formerly deputy coroner, who told of making a trip to Ludlow for the body of Nimmo. He was questioned by Frank West, assistant attorney general. He said the death of Nimmo was caused by loss of blood. Dr. Perry Jaffa, formerly county physician, told of performing an autopsy upon the body. He described the wound which caused death.
K. E. Linderfeldt, formerly a deputy sheriff and later a lieutenant in the national guard of Colorado and conspicuous in the subsequent events of the recent strike of the coal miners, was asked on cross-examination whether he saw which side fired the first shot in the battle between strikers and deputy sheriffs on October 25, 1914, in which Nimmo was killed.
"No, I did not," he replied.
The question was asked by Horace N. Hawkins, chief counsel for the defense. Linderfeldt previously had testified that he was in command of the deputy sheriffs, but that he was not present when the battle started.

Wives of Strikers Attack the Police With Broomsticks

STAMFORD, Conn., April 24.—Wives of striking laborers here, to the number of fifty or more, armed with broomsticks, pick handles and salt, fought hand-to-hand with the police today when the latter attempted to disperse them after a demonstration at the town hall. One arrest was made.
About 50 laborers, including nearly all of those employed by the city and local contractors, are on strike for \$2 a day, an eight-hour day and recognition of their union.
The women marched in a body to the town hall, and when Mayor Brown appeared, called on him to concede the strikers' demands. The mayor explained that only the common council could act on the demands and that it would not meet until Monday. He asked them to disperse and, when they refused, directed the police to disperse them. Police Chief Brennan seized the leader of the women, Mrs. Mary Doldos. This was a signal for the outbreak and the policemen were beaten, scratched and bitten by the women, who rushed to their leader's assistance.
Mrs. Doldos was hurried into the town hall, where she was charged with breach of peace. The women then dispersed.

GERMANS DRIVE WEDGE THROUGH LINE OF ALLIES

Sudden Attack North of Hill No. 60 Forces French and Belgians Back to Yser Canal.
COUNTER ATTACKS INITIATED
Germans Are Forced by Quick Advance of Allies to Give Up Most of Ground Occupied.
HARDEST FIGHT FOR MONTHS

The Day's War News

A SERIES OF GERMAN successes along the western front is announced in today's official report from Berlin. The French war office report gives a different version of the situation in Belgium.
ADVANCE OF THE GERMANS is ascribed by the French war office to the use of bombs developing gas, which asphyxiated the men in the trenches.
FRIEGHER RUTH has been sunk in the North Sea by a German submarine. Its crew of sixteen was saved.
FINNISH STEAMER FRACK has been sunk in the Baltic sea by a German submarine. The crew is believed to have been saved.
NEW BATTLE IN BELGIUM, which has developed suddenly into one of the most important encounters in the west since the present battle line was formed, is being carried on by a reluctant German attack and a determined resistance on the part of the British.
OFFICIAL STATEMENT from the British war office says that the British troops are still fighting for the ground which they were compelled to yield to the Germans. The loss of these positions exposed the Canadian division, which was compelled to fall back. The Canadians lost four pieces of artillery, but later recaptured them.
AVIATORS OF THE ALLIES operating over Smyrna report that the Turks are defending the city with 25,000 troops established in trenches. A German steamer was sunk and two men in a Turkish fort were killed by bombs dropped from the aeroplanes.
LONDON, April 24.—Over an arc-like front in Belgian Flanders, which is roughly ten miles long from the region of Bixchoote, in the north, to St. Eloi, in the south, French, British and Belgian troops are locked with the Germans today in a series of engagements which recall the fighting of last October.
Driven from Hill No. 60 to the south of Ypres, and falling to retake it by a counter attack, the Germans launched a sudden advance northeast of the town and after stuffing and killing men in the first trenches with deadly gases, according to British official reports, they drove a wedge of infantry forward, forcing the French and Belgians back toward, and at some points apparently across, the Yser (Ypres) canal, a maneuver which at the same time compelled the British line north of Ypres to fall back to conform with the French.
Although the advance of the Germans was considerable, extending, according to Berlin dispatches, over a front of five miles, French, Belgian and British forces—the French occupying the center, the Belgians the left and the British the right of the line—immediately initiated a counter attack, the result of which was to compel the Germans to give up some of the ground they had taken and force them in a northeasterly direction toward Langemark, from which place the attack started.
Some of the London newspapers today characterize this German rush as another attempt to break through to Calais, and some estimates say they have 60,000 men available for this effort.
By this time the British are presumably well strengthened and have consolidated the attention on Hill No. 60. The hardest fighting, consequently, is expected north of Ypres, as the Germans have been

People of Italy Are Urged to Keep Nerves in Order

ROME, April 23.—(Via Paris, April 24.)—"Keep your nerves in order," is the advice given to the people of Italy by the Giornale d'Italia in an editorial, "for what is most needed is national discipline."
The paper says that while the government knows all the elements which have entered into a difficult international situation and has received from Parliament full power to act, the country must be allowed to work in peace until the time comes when it is considered possible to reveal what has been done without injuring the interests of the nation.

M'MILLAN GIVEN TWO YEARS WHEN HE PLEADS GUILTY

PIERRE, S. D., April 24.—(Special Telegram.)—In circuit court at Fort Pierre, Maurice McMillan entered a plea of guilty to the charge of embezzlement of city funds when auditor and was given a sentence of two years. In the case charging bank wrecking against John Hays a charge of forgery, second degree, was set aside on demurrer and Judge McGee directed a verdict of acquittal on a second charge. There are five other informations yet to be tried, which will be heard next week.

CROP CONDITIONS OF BEST IN WESTERN NEBRASKA

KEARNEY, Neb., April 24.—(Special Telegram.)—A fine rain fell here today after showers the last two days. The rain extended as far west as Callaway and covered a general territory in this section. Over one inch of rainfall was reported today, which makes crop conditions of the best.

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Brother of General Obregon Executed by Villa for Revenge

NEW YORK, April 24.—Francisco S. Elias, consul for Mexico under the Carranza faction, announced today that he had received a telegram from General Obregon asserting that General Obregon's brother, Francisco, taken prisoner by Villa and sent to Chihuahua, had been shot by Villa's order.
Mr. Elias made public the text of a telegram sent him by General Obregon from Irapuato, reading as follows: "I wish to make it known to you that Villa, to avenge himself upon me for the defeat which my troops have inflicted upon him, has arrested and sent my brother, Francisco Obregon, a man 70 years old, a prisoner to Chihuahua. He was living peacefully in Guadaluajara, with neither of the factions. When Villa fled from the city he ordered that he be arrested. This is nothing more than revenge which he is seeking from me for the defeat which he suffered."
Another dispatch from General Obregon, Mr. Elias asserted, had been received later stating that General Obregon had sent a telegram to General Villa pointing out that his brother was a feeble old man and non-combatant and requesting his release. The only reply received to this message, Mr. Elias said the dispatch stated, was a reply from Villa which read: "Your brother has been shot."

Free Coupon Good for 25 cts. or 50 cts.

By special arrangement with the management for the benefit of Bee readers. Observe strictly the conditions and limitations stipulated in the coupon.

This Bee Coupon Entitles Bearer to one 25c or 50c Seat For the performance of "The Deep Purple" At the Boyd Theater, Monday Evening, April 19

Present at Box Office any time prior to performance and get a free admission ticket in addition to the ticket you buy at the regular price. You must have a Bee coupon for each extra ticket you ask for.

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